of J and K requesting for assistance from the Government of India and its agencies in providing marketing support to the artisans of the State.

Loans for setting up Spinning Mills in Bihar

1480. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three spinning mills are being set up in Bihar on the turn-key basis;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the construction work of these mills has since been completed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that term loans required for these mills have not yet been granted by the Industrial Development Bank of India and National Co-operative Development Corporation; and

(d) if so, by when the loans are likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Civil construction work is in progress.

(c) and (d) The National Cooperative Development Cooperation has under a Central Sector Scheme for Handloom Weavers Cooperative Spinning Mills, sanctioned a loan assistance of Rs. 896.807 lakhs for helping the State of Bihar to take part in the share capital of these mills and has already reimbursed an amount of Rs. 199.23 lakhs to the State Government. The Industrial Development Bank of India have sanctioned assistance or two of these units.

Hike in Defence expenditure by Pakistan

1481. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported hike in defence expenditure by about 20 per cent by Pakistan in their budget for 1984-85; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Government have seen media reports to the effect that Pakistan has made a substantial increase in its defence budget this year. No confirmed information in this regard is, however, available.

(b) Our plans for defence preparedness are periodically updated taking into consideration all factors having on our security.

केन्द्रीय उत्पाद-शुल्क अधिकारियों द्वारा एक फर्म पर छापा

1482. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय आबकारी विभाग के अधिकारियों ने मई के पहले सप्ताह में रेफ्रिजरेटरों और एअर कंडीशनरों के फालतू पुर्जों की निर्माता एक फर्म के परिसर पर छापा मार कर करीब 1.29 करोड़ रुपये की उत्पादशुल्क की चोरी का पता लगाया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) वर्ष 1983-84 में इस फर्म से अब तक कितने रूपए की शुल्क राशि वसूल की गई है ; और

(घ) उत्पाद शुल्क का भुगतान न करने के लिए फर्म के विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाई की गई है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस. एम. कृष्णा): (क) और (ख) ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि जनवरी, 1984 में मैसर्स फ्रीजकिंग इण्डस्ट्रीज (प्रा.) लि., नई दिल्ली के परिसर पर मारे गये छापों के बारे में प्रश्न पूछा गया है । यह आरोप लगाया गया है कि प्रशीतकों और वातानुकूलकों के फालतू पुर्जे बनाने वाले उक्त निर्माता ने उत्पादन शुल्कय माल का न्यून मूल्यांकन किया है । पिछले

पांच वर्षों के दौरान उसने 1.32 करोड़ रुपए के मूल्य की निकासी की थी, जिसके सम्बन्ध में लगभग 1.29 करोड़ रुपये का शुल्क-अपवंचन किए जाने का आरोप है ।

(ग) उक्त फर्म ने वर्ष 1983-84 के दौरान केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क की अदायगी के रूप में 3.88 लाख रुपए अदा किये थे।

(घ) उचित कार्यवाही हेतु फर्म को केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क कानून के उपबन्धों के अधीन कारण बताओं नोटिस जारी कर दिया गया है ।

Review of Indo-USSR trade protocol

1483. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-USSR trade protocol has been reviewed and signed recently in Moscow;

(b) whether any proposals have been considered to diversify and expand trade between the two countries on official and non-official basis; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (c) The Indo-USSR Trade Protocol for 1984 which was signed in December, 1983, was reviewed in Moscow in the first half of July, 1984. The discussions covered proposals to expand and diversify bilateral trade through additional exports of agricultural products, chemicals, leather & leather menufactures, textile and engineering goods from India as also maximising imports of Soviet machinery and equipment, fertilisers, non-ferrous metals, chemicals etc. alongwith identifying new items for import from the Soviet Union.

Rise in price of essential commodities

1484. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the rise in Consumer Price Index for April 1984 or the lastest available month in comparison to the position at the end of 1980, with regard to rice, wheat, dal, edible oils, cloth, fuel drugs, salt, sugar. tea, coffee, cigarettes and shoes; and

(b) what has been the behaviour of wholesale prices of wheat, sugarcane, jute, cotton, tobacco potatoes and onions during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The All-India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (base 1960-100) was 408 in December, 1980 and 559 in April, 1984 and 574 in June, 1984 (latest available). Separate consumer price indices are not compiled in respect of individual commodities.

(b) The desired information on the movement of wholesale Prices of the commodities in question between December, 1980 and June 1984 is given below:

Wholesale Price Index
(1970-71-100)

	December 1980	June 1984 (P)
	(Average of Week)	
1. Wheat	190·2	205·8
2. Sugarcane	192·7	205·9
3. Jute	132·2	372·3
4. Cottaon	198·2	266·5
5. Tobacco raw	139·7	183·6
6. Potatoes	154·6	182·1
7. Onions	207·6	427·2

(P) Provisional.